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CROSBY NARRATES SOVIET FILM

COMING IN APRIL

By John Molleson

Of The Herald Tribune Staff

A Soviet Cinerama film, introduced and narrated by Bing Crosby, will be shown in the United States in April, it was announced yesterday.

The two-and-a-half hour movie consists of dance and adventure sequences from several Soviet Cinerama successes, plus two segments

filmed in Russia especially for the American producer, J. Jay Frankel.

At a news conference in the Hotel Plaza, Mr. Frankel said the film—tentatively titled "Cinerama's Russian Adventure With Bing Crosby"—will be the first Soviet movie to have mass distribution in the United States. Several Ameri-

can movies have been widely distributed in the Soviet Union.

Highlights from the film include the Moscow Circus and its celebrated clown, Popov; Bolshoi Ballet; Molseyev Dancers, a troika race, a wild boar hunt, a cross-country reindeer race, and "participation sequences that put the audience in the picture," Mr.

Frankel said. "The film will be purely entertaining."

"Russian Adventure"—with the exception of Mr. Crosby's introduction and narration now being filmed in Hollywood—was made in the Soviet Union, filmed in the Russian process, Kinopanorama, which is compatible with the three-strip system of Cinerama. Mr. Frankel said multiple-lens projection developed in Russia about the same time it did here. Cinerama was first shown in New York in 1952 on a 146-degree, concave screen perfected by the late Fred Waller.

The production was brought to the United States with the co-operation of the State Department under the Cultural Exchange Agreement. As a sequel to the arrangement, Mr. Frankel said, the Soviets may import one or more American Cinerama films for showing in the 100 Soviet theaters equipped with three-strip projection. William Forman, president of Cinerama, Inc., joined Mr. Frankel in making the announcement.

*Seen 01/14 ("Cinerama's Russian Adventure With Bing Crosby")
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